

Message Text

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NEA/P-MR. SHERMAN

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TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 150056

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: TEXT OF WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ON SECRETARY

SIMON'S TRIP TO MIDEAST

REF: JIDDA 3947 NOTAL

1. WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY WARREN MADE FOLLOWING
STATEMENT AT NEWS CONFERENCE MORNING JULY 9 RE
SECRETARY SIMON'S TRAVEL TO MIDEAST:

QTE: SECRETARY SIMON WILL DEPART THURSDAY, AS WE HAVE
SAID, FOR EGYPT, ISRAEL, SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT.
FOLLOWING THAT, HE WILL TRAVEL TO EUROPE FOR MEETINGS
WITH FINANCE MINISTERS IN GERMANY, FRANCE AND ENGLAND.
THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT CAN GIVE YOU HIS EXACT ITINERARY
AND THE SIZE OF HIS PARTY, BUT I INDICATED YESTERDAY
HE WOULD RETURN ABOUT THE FIRST OF AUGUST. I AM TOLD
THIS MORNING HE WILL RETURN ON SATURDAY, JULY 27.

HIS VISIT TO EGYPT, OF COURSE, IS BEING MADE AT THE
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PRESIDENT'S REQUEST AND FOLLOWS THE DECLARATION OF

PRINCIPLES SIGNED BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRESIDENT SADAT
ON JUNE 14.

THE TRIP TO ISRAEL PRIMARILY IS A FOLLOW ON TO THE JOINT
STATEMENT ISSUED DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL.

WHILE THERE, SECRETARY SIMON WILL MEET WITH THE PRIME
MINISTER, PRIME MINISTER RABIN, AND OTHER HIGH
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, TO DISCUSS WAYS OF STRENGTHENING
AND DEVELOPING THE FRAMEWORK AND BILATERAL ECONOMIC
RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.

OF COURSE, WE HAVE A JOINT U.S. - SAUDI ARABIAN COM-
MISSION ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND THE SECRETARY'S
VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA WILL DEAL WITH THE WORKINGS OF
THIS COMMISSION.

THE KUWAIT STOP WILL ALLOW THE SECRETARY AN THPORTUNITY
TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH KUWAITI OFFICIALS ON THE
ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND ENERGY MATTERS, IN ADDITION TO
THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE THAT KUWAIT PLACES AS A CONTRI-
BUTOR TO THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY STABILITY.

Q. ARE THERE OTHER REASONS FOR THIS TRIP THAT YOU ARE
NOT TELLING US?

MR. WARREN: NOT THAT I AM AWARE OF, DON. I THINK I
AM GIVING YOU THE REASONS THAT I KNOW OF. DID YOU HAVE
SOMETHING IN MIND?

Q. I DON'T KNOW. YOU SEEM TO BE STRETCHING THE REASON --

MR. WARREN: YOU CAN STOP ME ANY TIME.

Q. JERRY, CAN I REPHRASE THAT?

MR. WARREN: YES, YOU MAY DO ANYTHING YOU WISH.

Q. COULD YOU TAKE US INTO THE EUROPEAN AREA AND ASK
SPECIFICALLY WHETHER SECRETARY SIMON WILL BE IN ANY WAY
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TRYING TO GET SOME KIND OF CONCERTED PROGRAM TOWARD
INTERNATIONAL INFLATION IN THE WESTERN WORLD?

MR. WARREN: THE PROBLEM -- NOT ANY CONCERTED ACTION,
JERRY -- THE PROBLEM OF INFLATION THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
WILL BE A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION, AS INDEED IT IS BETWEEN
THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND SOME OF THE EUROPEAN LEADERS
THAT HE IS MEETING WITH IN THIS CURRENT TRIP OF SECRETARY

KISSINGER'S. SO, THAT WOULD CERTAINLY BE A MATTER TO BE
DISCUSSED WITH THE FINANCE MINISTERS OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE AND ENGLAND. KISSINGER

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